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# Resilience through Enhanced Adaptation Action-learning, and Partnership (REAAP) Annual Performance Report FY2015 (October 2014 – September 2015)



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# List of Abbreviation

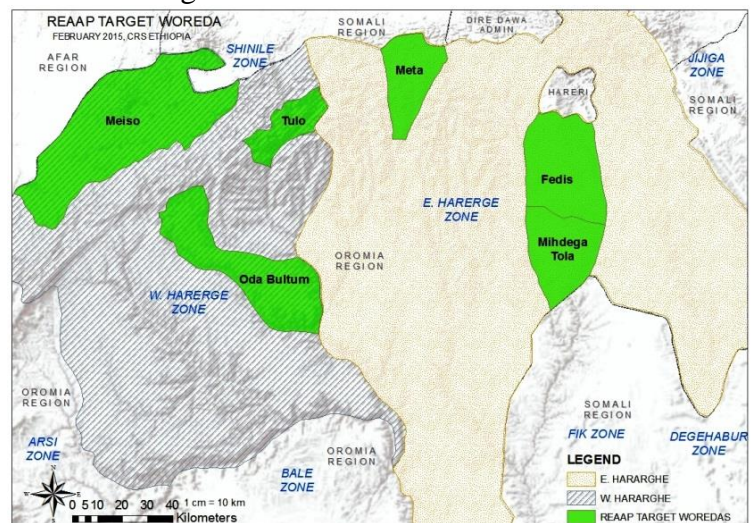
AP	Action Plan
APF	Action Plan Fund
APFC	Action Plan Fund Approval Committee
AWP	Annual Work Plan
ADPO	Area Development Program Office
BMP	Branding Implementation Strategy and Marking Plan
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CIAFS	Capacity to Improve Agriculture and Food Security
CM-DRR	Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction
COP	Chief of Party
CP	Consortium Partner
Cordaid	Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
DCOP	Deputy Chief of Party
DFAP	Development Food Assistance Program
DIP	Detailed Implementation Plan
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
EWS	Early Warning Systems
F2F	Farmer to Farmer Program
FTF	Feed the Future initiative
FY	Fiscal Year
ECC-SDCOH	Ethiopian Catholic Church Social Development Coordination Office of Harar
HI	Handicap International
GoE	Government of Ethiopia
IEE	Initial Environmental Examination
IKP	Indigenous Knowledge and Practices
LKM/TA	Learning, Knowledge Management / Technologies Advisor
M&E plan	NMA Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
NMA	National Meteorology Agency
OFDA	Office of the U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance
PDRA	Participatory Disaster Risk Assessment
PIMP	Performance Indicators Management Plan
PITT	Performance Indicators Tracking Table
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
PWD	People with Disabilities
REAAP	Resilience through Enhanced Adaptation, Action-learning, and Partnership
REVIVE	Revitalizing Vibrant Villages and Environment
QPR	Quarterly Performance Report
QFR	Quarterly Financial Report
SMILER	Simple Measurement of Indicators for Learning and Evidence-based Reporting
TOR	Terms of Reference
TOT	Training of Trainers
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAT	Value Added Tax

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# I. PROJECT OVERVIEW

<b>Activity title:</b>	Resilience through Enhanced Adaptation Action-learning, and Partnership (REAAP)
<b>Activity start date and end date:</b>	Oct 1, 2014 6 Sept 30, 2017
<b>Prime implementing partner:</b>	Catholic Relief Services
<b>Agreement number:</b>	AID-663-A-14-00006
<b>Sub-awardees:</b>	Ethiopian Catholic Church Social Development Coordination Office of Harar, Handicap International and Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid
<b>Reporting period:</b>	FY15, October 2014 6 September 2015
<b>Geographic coverage:</b>	6 Woredas in East and West Hararghe in Oromia Region



## 2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Resilience through Enhanced Adaptation, Action-learning, and Partnership (REAAP) activity is a 3 year USAID-funded (OFDA, the Global Climate Change and Feed the Future Initiatives) project for the period of October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2017. CRS leads the activity in consortium with Ethiopian Catholic Church Social Development Coordination Office of Harar (ECC-SDCOH), Handicap International (HI) and Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid (Cordaid). REAAP activity is expected to sustainably increase resilience and reduce long term vulnerability to current and future climate change and climate-related shocks and stresses in communities in six Woredas of East Hararghe (Meta, Fedis and Midhega Tola) and West Hararghe (Mieso, Oda Bultum, and Tulo) Zones of Oromia Regional State. See REAAP operation area map in Annex 2. REAAP will reach a total of 475,000 people (95,000 households) in 100 kebeles in three livelihood (farming, agro-pastoralist and pastoralist) zones. REAAP will achieve this by strengthening horizontal linkages to consortium partners and other initiatives and, vertically to GoE-led food security, forecasting, agricultural growth and disaster management structures. Through the process of CM-DRR, community-level threats will be assessed, identified, and prioritized through Participatory Disaster Risk Assessment (PDRA).

This FY15 annual performance report has a specific section on achievements in Q4 in chapter 8. Annex 1 shows REAAP's detailed achievements in a tabular overview for FY15. Reaap reached, with different interventions, 13,362 HH and 55,416 indirect beneficiaries<sup>1</sup>.

During the **start-up phase**, 91 (15F) staff were recruited and deployed. REAAP established five REAAP woreda coordination offices and two zonal level offices where technical staff are based and provide support to DRR facilitators and DRR committees. REAAP activity launch workshops were organized in Dire Dawa on January 1-2 and in Addis Ababa on March 18 and 140 (16 F) participants from government sector offices, donor, NGOs and consortium members attended. All REAAP project deliverables, like AWP (DIP and PITT), M&E Plan (PIMP), Branding and Marking Plan and IEE, plus a budget realignment, were submitted on time and approved by USAID. Except the IEE, which is pending approval<sup>2</sup>. In addition to the supplies, 3 vehicles and 10 motorcycles were purchased in FY15 as per approved award and revised budget.

As part of the **activities**, REAAP selected 50 kebeles for year 1 and 50 kebeles for year 2. The 100 kebeles are listed in a map in Annex 2. In the 100 kebeles, 100 DRR facilitators and 100 SILC agents were recruited. 67 (10F) DRR facilitators received TOT in CMDRR process and disability mainstreaming in Q2 and 48 -year 10 DRR facilitators received coaching in CMDRR process in Q4. This TOT was also provided to 65 government and 20 REAAP staff. Because of 17 overlapping kebeles with other NGOs, REAAP selected 17 new kebeles and trained those new DRR facilitators and SILC agents too. A total of 50 inclusive DRR committees, each with 20 members, totaling 1,000 members (463F; 108 PWD, 38F) were established in these 50 kebeles. After orientation on Participatory Disaster Risk Assessment (PDRA) process to 1,000 CMDRR committee members, 50 CMDRR reports and action plan were finalized and 50

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<sup>1</sup> Total number of people receiving services, including double counting, is 20,498 HH and 102,490 indirect beneficiaries.

<sup>2</sup> REAAP falls under a USAID/Ethiopia blanket IEE, and the REAAP EMMP was approved on Oct 22, 2015.

*CMDRR Action Plans Fund* applications were submitted to Action Plan Fund Committee (APFC), which approved 42 action plans.

REAAP started collecting weekly EW data on indicators in the program areas through the JEOP web based *EW system* and has established seasonal agricultural planning sessions with farmers and NMA and Haramaya University.

To enhance participation of people with *disabilities*, different disability kits have been purchased and distributed. 19 people have participated in a five-day training on *disability mainstreaming*. A *PWD manual* was developed and produced. Two *radio messages* have been broadcasted via the Haramaya FM radio station in Q4 and IP *disability audits* and *woreda disability assessment* have been completed.

173 *SILC groups* with a total of 3,829 members (3,523F) were established and saved US\$ 8,364; US\$ 7,094 for loan fund and US\$ 1,271 for social fund. 116 members received a total of US\$ 2,143 in loan for different livelihoods activities, including shoats fattening and rearing, and petty trading.

500kg short maturing *basic seed* maize variety and 400kg of four types of haricot bean varieties from Haramaya University, were distributed to 100 (17F) farming communities organized in five seed groups. 5,500kg *short maturing seed varieties* of maize, 10,800kg of sorghum, 15,000kg of teff and 20,000kg of chick pea were purchased and distributed to 9,293 (2,514F) farming communities. During seed distribution, orientation was given to 100 farmers (14F) on land preparation, use of appropriate seeding rate, row planting, weeding and the overall agronomic practices. One nursery site, managed by a group of communities, with REAAP technical and material supports, will raise seedlings of indigenous tree species. 1,498 different *hand tools* and materials were distributed for the nursery site to raise seedlings of different multipurpose trees, for communities to implement different physical and biological conservation measures activities and for other PSNP NRM activities. 315kg of nine types of *forage grass and multipurpose tree* seeds were purchased to use in nursery sites and direct planting on soil bunds. 1,800 *fruit seedlings* (grafted mango, guava and avocado) have been provided to 600 farmers to plant in their backyard.

11 out of 70 hectares targeted (16%) of the highly degraded *watershed* were closed for human and animals for rehabilitation. The communities have agreed and developed by-law to protect and use biomass produced in the area to feed their livestock through cut-and carry system. 20 out of 40 hectares targeted (50%) of the highly degraded *rangeland* were closed for human and livestock.

217 (151F) people received ENA/IYCF awareness creation sessions and 492 households (251 FHH) constructed 140 keyhole gardens and planted 90kg seeds of six different vegetable crops in their backyard/keyhole gardens; see transforming lives stories in annex 2. Demonstration of food preparation and preservation was conducted to 197 women, focusing on nutrition sensitive food cooking demonstration following the matured vegetable crops produced in keyhole gardens.

Two fuel efficient stove producer groups (FESPG) with 28 members (27F) were established for production and marketing of FES.

The Indigenous Knowledge and Practices (IKP) assessment report was finalized. Gender analysis and baseline survey reports are in their final drafts and pending validation with stakeholders.

### 3. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

REAAP start-up activities completed are:

- A total of 92 (15F) staff were recruited.
- REAAP established five field offices one and two zonal office.
- A total of 62 (5F) participants attended the launching workshop in Dire Dawa on January 1-2, 2015 with the main aim to introduce REAAP activity to 26 REAAP staff and 36 government partners. 78 people (11F) attended the joint launch of REAAP and REVIVE activity in Addis Ababa on March 18, 2015.
- REAAP purchased 22 computers, 8 printers, 2 photo copy machines and 14 ICT devices, and different office furniture.
- Deliverables submitted and approved and motor vehicles purchase process are listed in below table.

Deliverable/ item	Submitted	USAID Approval	Comment
FY15 AWP/DIP	Oct 30, 2014	Feb 27, 2015	Revision submitted Dec 24, 2014
BMP	Oct 30, 2014	Dec 18, 2014	
IEE	Oct 30, 2014	Oct 22, 2015	Pending in FY15, USAID blanket IEE drafted Aug 25, 2015 approval of EMMP on Oct 22, 2015
M&E plan	Nov 14, 2014	Feb 27, 2015	
FY16 AWP/DIP	Sept 1, 2015	Oct 19, 2015	
2 Toyota Land Cruisers	Dec 3, 2014	Dec 10, 2015	Order placed Dec 31, 2014 and deployed to field on Aug 25, 2015
5 Suzuki motorbikes	Jan 30, 2015	Feb 23, 2015	Order placed Mar 29, 2015 and deployed to field on Oct 16, 2015
1 Toyota Hilux	May 29, 2015	July 14, 2015	Order placed Jul 30, 2015 and end of Oct on the way from Djibouti to Addis Ababa
5 Suzuki motorbikes	May 29, 2015	July 14, 2015	Order placed Jul 30, 2015 and end of Oct on the way from Djibouti to Addis Ababa

Activities executed per IR during the reporting period are as follows:

#### **IR1: Communities have improved access to technical information and analytical tools for decision making.**

Output 1.1: A knowledge management system that facilitates collection of resilience knowledge is established, and a knowledge bank is used to draw on.

IK and Practices (IKP) assessment (*Activity 1.1.1*) was conducted in March and after validation workshops in Chiro and Dire Dawa in September a validation workshop was organized in Addis Ababa and participants' feedback was incorporated in the final report. Weekly Early Warning information at woreda level was collected in Q3 and Q4. REAAP's EW officers based at ADPO participated in seasonal government food security assessments and collected EW information and analyzed food security situation of the woredas and produced assessment reports together with government partners. In addition EW officers participate in seasonal weather forecast meetings between farmers, NMA and Haramaya University to discuss previous three months weather forecast and forecast the weather for the coming three months to be able to improve their

agriculture activity planning (*Activity 1.1.2.*). REAAP received 30 years rainfall and temperature data from NMA. This information will be used for the development of the Community Resilience Framework (CRF). REAAP has also purchased 850 plastic rain gauges from NMA and placed those REAAP operational kebeles.



Plastic rain gauge in place at one of the watershed areas, Sept. 2015.

The development of the toolkit (*Activity 1.1.3*) was not fully achieved because this activity is dependent on the outcomes of activities 1.1.1 and 1.1.2. REAAP team did organize joint meetings with zonal and woreda Agriculture

officials, Fedis Research center, and Haramaya University on how to collaborate in integrating IKP with information from government and academic institutions. One day stakeholder forums were held in both East and West Hararghe zones that aimed to discuss and share among the participants on indigenous knowledge and practices, and scientific based EW system (*Activity 1.1.4*). The forum has given a chance to have more information sharing and understanding among participants and on how to harmonize with scientific knowledge to enable communities to use this information for decision making. Total 80 (4F) participants comprising of DRR committee members, experts from zonal and woreda government offices, Haramaya University, Fedis Agriculture Research Center and National Metrology Agency participated.

### Output 1.2: Communities have increased capacity to understand and analyze information about their context.

Based on the jointly agreed upon selection criteria, which includes recurrence of hazard, presence of on-going USAID and other donor-supported programs, potential for change, accessibility, and livelihood system (agriculture, agro-pastoral or pastoral livelihood zone), REAAP selected 100 kebeles in a clear and transparent process involving woreda level government officials, communities and REAAP staff (*Activity 1.2.1.*). Of these selected kebeles 48% are farming, 31% agro pastoral and 21% pastoral livelihood. Because of overlap of 17 kebeles with other NGOs, which follow different approach in implementation of different activities, REAAP was forced to replace these kebeles with new ones. Accordingly, 17 new kebeles were selected and 50 DRR facilitators were recruited from respective selected kebeles, and trained in CMDRR approach and PDRA process. IEC and teaching material for PWD inclusion were produced and distributed to stakeholders, whereas the IEC and teaching material for nutrition and health, the content translated into Afan Oromo and the design completed, but the production and distribution was not completed (*Activity 1.2.2*). REAAP has connected with woreda and kebele governments and introduce the activity in Q2 (*Activity 1.2.3*). During monitoring visits made every quarter, REAAP team and implementing partners have witnessed that woreda and kebel officials are aware of REAAP's purpose and activities and have actively participated in facilitation of PDRA process and validation of action plan, communities training and approval of action plans.



CRS and HCS Technical team in field with poor performing crop in REAAP operation area, Sept. 2015.

REAAP conducted TOT on the CMDRR process (*Activity 1.2.4.*) for 65 (8F) government and REAAP staff, and 67 (10F) DRR facilitators, including to 17 additional DRR facilitators due to overlap of kebeles. As a result of these trainings, REAAP staff based at woreda and ADPO level and government sector staff have participated in facilitating the PDRA process and providing technical supports to DRR facilitators and organizing training to the communities. In addition, in Q4, 3 days CMDRR coaching sessions were organized for 20 (3F) government staff and 48 (10F) DRR facilitators. The purpose of these coaching sessions was to provide the opportunity for participants to discuss their challenges and good practices and learn from each other by CORDAID's global CMDRR expert. Result of these coaching sessions are that government and REAAP staffs are better able to facilitate the CMDRR process in the communities and this will increase the sustainability of the activity. In order to support and strengthen community level disability inclusion activities, these DRR facilitators were also trained on disability mainstreaming for two days held at Harar, Chiro and Dire Dawa towns in two rounds. 50 inclusive DRR committees (*Activity 1.2. 5*) were established in each kebele with 20 members for each committee. A total with 1,000 members (463F and 108 PWD, 38F) were established in all REAAP kebeles. While forming the committee, caution was taken to ensure that members of the committee are represented from all social and economic backgrounds groups. Therefore, different criteria were used including representation from both sex, age groups, youth and elderly, PWD, local leaders, religious leaders, kebele administrator, members of development committees and influential community members who have willingness and commitment to undertake assignments given to them by the community.

REAAP has conducted several training over the course of FY15. Below table shows the different trainings and number of participants.

Name of Training	No. Male	No. Female	Total
Basic M&E	26	5	31
CMDRR TOT for government & REAAP staff	62	3	65
CMDRR TOT for DRR Facilitators	52	15	67
CMDRR coaching to government staff & DRR facilitators	55	13	68
CMDRR toolbox activities	25	2	27
SILC TOT for SILC Supervisors & Officers	5	2	7
SILC for SILC Agents	9	41	50
Training on business skill for SILC Field Agents and SILC supervisors	0	50	50
ENA/IYCF for Health Extension Workers	36	83	119
USAID Environmental Social Design and Management (ESDM) for DRR facilitators	22	1	23
PPMEL for community members	100	48	148
Climate change adaptation for DRR Committee members	537	463	1,000
Disability capacity building to government staff, ADPOs & focal persons	67	19	86
Management and use of seed varieties for farmers	86	14	100
Watershed management (SWCMs) for government staff & farmers	56	6	62
Food preparation demonstration for community members	0	197	197
FES training for community members	10	40	50
Orientation training on haymaking for community members	10	5	15
Livestock marketing, health & management for community members	15	9	24
EWS Training for DRR facilitators and EW officers	70	22	92

In Q4, training was organized for 50 inclusive DRR committees (1,000 members, 463F) on community managed disaster risk reduction and climate change (CM-DRR & CCA) (*Activity 1.2.6*). During the training concepts, cause and effects of climate change with different adaptation strategies were covered as well as CMDRR principles with detail rationalization were elaborated to participants. Before the Participatory Disaster Risk Assessment (PDRA) process in each of the 50 REAAP kebeles, the DRR facilitators, staff from REAAP and woreda sector government offices were trained in CMDRR approach. After having a common understanding on how to proceed, the PDRA process was conducted in all 50 kebeles and DRR committees completed the first three phases of inclusive PDRA (*Activity 1.2.7*); hazard identification, capacity and vulnerability analysis, and risk analysis (hazard prioritization). DRR committees lead campaign to strengthen community awareness on climate change and other hazard-related topics including gender and disability sensitive disaster vulnerabilities was implemented during Q4. 5,437 community members (1,623F) from 21 kebeles in Fedis (7 kebeles), Midhega Tola (6 kebeles) and Tullo woredas (8 kebeles) have participated at this experience exchange visit and awareness creation campaign. Drought, which is the major hazard in almost all kebeles, and livestock disease, crop pests and diseases, child and lactating mothers' malnutrition were among the topics discussed.

## **IR 2. Communities identified and implemented actions that increase resilience to climate variability, long-term climate change, and climate-related shocks.**

### **Output 2.1 Innovative actions that increase community resilience to climate variability, long-term climate change and climate-related shocks are identified and investigated by DRR Committees.**

REAAP has developed an assessment tools/questionnaire based on the existing JEOP web based *EW system* and shared to the field team, for weekly update of EW indicators in the program areas (*Activity 2.1.1.*) Following the tools development, collection of EW information has continued (*Activity 2.1.2.*). Assessment was also conducted in the REAAP woredas, to see possibilities to synchronize EW data collection with the government EW system and accordingly 850 plastic rain gauges were purchased from NMA and have been in placed at community/watershed level for seasonal rainfall information. Rainfall data collection template was developed and shared with and orientation provided to field staff and collection of rainfall data has started. This data will be linked to the seasonal meetings between farmers and NMA and Haramaya University. As part of the fourth and final phase of inclusive PDRA (*Activity 2.1 3*), all 50 DRR committees completed the process with a CMDRR report.

Next, the *CMDRR reports and action plans* in all 50 kebeles were validated by zonal and woreda sector government offices representatives, kebele officials and community members, and as result feed backs on the final action plan were incorporated into the reports and plans (*Activity 2.1 4*). 50 action plans were submitted to Action Plan Fund Committee (APFC) for approval and 42 action plans were approved (*Activity 2.1.5*).

One of the approaches to enhance participation of people with disabilities is provision of disability kit, which will improve their mobility and access to REAAP interventions. *Disability kit* distribution started in operation area (*Activity 2.1.6.1.*). 279 assistive devices, which include crutches, canes, back sack and whistles were transferred to 30 female and 62 male beneficiaries. In addition 17 PWD were given a referral service (physiotherapy) and 102 persons were given consultation services and 30 of them were given the mobility assistive kits. The DRR committee selected beneficiaries from each kebele community.

HI used previously developed *disability mainstreaming* manual and translated it into Afan Oromo (*Activity 2.1.6.2.*). This manual will be used to address the needs of PWD in different sectors of programming. Brochures and posters on PWD were prepared in Afan Oromo and distributed to stakeholders.

Capacity building for woreda authorities, ADPOs and focal persons on *disability inclusion* by its nature comprises of different sub activities that will support the disability mainstreaming into REAAP activities (*Activity 2.1.6.3*). Sign language training was provided to 17 (3F) staff of six woredas government sector offices (Health, Agriculture and Labor and Social Affairs), which will help them break communication barriers and facilitate inclusive activities with respect to persons with hearing impairment at their service delivery points. The second Disability mainstreaming training of trainers was conducted for 6 (0F) religious leaders and 18 (1F) focal persons from respective woreda sector offices. Following the achievement of disability audit exercise at selected woreda sector offices (31) and mainstreaming training of trainers (31) for selected each offices focal persons, disability mainstreaming action plan is developed for respective offices. All action plans have been approved by the management of the respective office, as well as integrated in each of their office plans.

Six Disabled People Organizations (DPOs) were organized in all REAAP operation woredas with the participation of 52 (16F) PWD and 10 (2F) woreda Administration and Labor and Social Affairs offices. HI assisted these DPOs to get registered with the respective government offices.

About 25,000 copies of *awareness raising materials*, which include 2 types of posters, leaflets, stickers and banners (*Activity 2.1.6.4*) were produced. The contents mainly focus on disability understanding, interpersonal communication with PWDs and promoting capacities and capabilities of PWD who are engaged in agricultural farming and livestock rearing. Two *radio message sessions*, exclusively focused on REAAP and disability issues were broadcasted.

DRR Facilitators received *disability orientation* and information regarding disability disaggregated data in each kebele was collected using SMILER format (*Activity 2.1.6.6*). *Disability assessment* across 31 government sector offices was conducted and based on the assessment findings, HI planned model service delivery point at each REAAP intervention woreda. With the participation of consortium staff, woreda focal persons and respective government officials, specific service delivery sites were identified and ramps adaptation designed. All selected service delivery points (like health center and, woreda administration meeting venues) started their ramp adaptation work in September 2015 (*activity 2.1.6.6*). Dissemination of *disability awareness raising materials* (*Activity 2.1.6.7*) coupled with radio messages are believed to bring attitudinal change in the community<sup>3</sup>. An *experience sharing visit* was also organized to Konso woreda of southern part of Ethiopia as part of experience sharing visit. 41 participants (17F; 5 PWD, 1F) from 41 DRR committees visited water-shed management (nursery site), terracing practice, gully erosion management, area closer management and cut and carry feed system in three kebeles.

#### Output 2.2 Community DRR committees managed inclusive context-specific DRR/adaptation activities and strategies.

27 (2F) REAAP CP met to discuss strategies and activities identified under toolbox (*Activity 2.2.1*). Subsequently, these strategies were translated into Afan Oromo and shared with DRR facilitators and woreda staff and orientations were provided to DRR committee members. This has helped the DRR committee in identifying some strategies and activities during PDRA process. A system for data collection to support communities to apply EW information and sharing is in progress (*Activity 2.2.2*). Since REAAP uses both indigenous and scientific EW information, and will integrate the IKP assessment outcomes in the EW system. The IKP was completed in September. In Q4, 80 Saving and Internal Lending Communities (SILC) were organized, which brought the total to 173 SILC groups with 3,829 members (3,523F). US\$ 8,364 was saved; US\$ 7,094 for loan fund and US\$ 1,271 for Social fund (*Activity 2.2.3*). US\$ 2,143 has been provided in loans to 116 members and used for different livelihoods activities including shoats fattening and rearing, and petty trading. Two group members have also used US\$ 30 from the social fund for medical purpose. A two-day refresher training was given to 42 SILC FAs. It was enabled them to discuss and exchange their experience regarding on SILC methodology, saving, record keeping, loan disbursement and others. Training on business skill was organized for five days for 47 SILC FAs and 3 SILC supervisors in order to impart the knowledge and

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<sup>3</sup> According to the radio broadcasting firm, more than 550,000 people can be reached by the transmissions of the radio message in REAAP implementation kebeles and neighboring woredas as well. REAAP will verify this in FY16.

skills they acquired to SILC group members. Topics covered in the training include the importance and purpose of business skill, how to develop entrepreneurial competencies, planning of IGAs, strategy in business and topics of basic business management.



One SILC group meeting in Midhega Tola (left) and one SILC group in Oda bultum with their log book and cash boxes (right)

Activities 2.2.4-2.2.6 were not implemented, because of delay in finalizing PDRA process and action plan. REAAP identified seven seed providers for 4 basic seeds varieties (*Activity 2.2.7.*), and sourced and purchased 500kg of short maturing maize variety (Melkasa #4) and 400kg of four types of haricot bean varieties from Haramaya University and distributed in the form of revolving fund. Before seeds were provided, one day orientation was conducted on seed production techniques to seed group members. Although REAAP organized seven groups with 240 members (18F), because of the drought, these groups are not strongly organized (lack of interest) and performance of these crops were also not encouraging (poor crop performance due to lack of rain).

REAAP introduced improved/drought tolerant crop seed variety to its farmers (*Activity 2.2.7.2.2*) and REAAP has purchased 5,500kg of short maturing varieties of maize, 10,800kg of sorghum, 15,000kg of teff and 20,000kg of chick pea and distributed those to 9,293 (2,514 F) farming communities. During seed distribution, 100 farmers (14F) received orientations on land preparation, use of appropriate seeding rate, row planting, weeding and the overall agronomic practices was provided.

Due to delay of PDRA process and seasonal farming activities, implementation of physical soil and water conservation related activities (*2.2.7.4*) were not implemented. However, ToT was provided to 32 (5F) woreda agriculture offices staffs on watershed management including on different techniques of soil and water conservation measures (*Activity 2.2.7.4.1.1*). Following this training, they trained 30 farmers (1F), with focus on the layout of SWCMs (*Activity 2.2.7.4.1.2*).

REAAP selected and identified one nursery site (*Activity 2.2.7.4.2.1*), which will be managed by a group of communities. With technical and material supports from REAAP, the site will raise seedlings of indigenous tree species. 1,498 different hand tools and materials needed for the nursery site management to raise seedlings of different multipurpose trees, including those to be used in the implementation of different physical and biological conservation measures activities, were purchased and distributed to DRR committee in each kebele. 315kg of nine types of forage, multipurpose tree and grass seeds were purchased for use in nursery sites and direct planting on

soil bunds. 1,800 fruit seedlings (grafted mango, guava and avocado) have been purchased and provided to 600 farmers to plant on their backyard.

Because of delay in finalization of PDRA process and action plan activities under 2.2.7.4. were not implemented.

11 out of 70 hectares targeted (16%) of the highly degraded *watershed* were closed for human and animals for rehabilitation. The communities have agreed and developed by-law to protect and use biomass produced in the area to feed their livestock through cut-and carry system.

119 (83F) people, DRR committee, HEW, DRRF, SILC agents, DA and Woreda health office staff, received ENA/IYCF awareness creation sessions (*Activity 2.2.7.5.1*) and 492 households (251 FHH) constructed 140 keyhole gardens (*Activity 2.2.7.5.2*) and planted 90kg seeds of six different vegetable crops in their backyard/keyhole gardens; see transforming lives stories in annex 3. Demonstration of food preparation and preservation (*Activity 2.2.7.5.3*) was conducted to 197 women, focusing on nutrition sensitive food cooking demonstration following the matured vegetable crops produced in keyhole gardens.

Ten Fuel Efficient Stove Producer Groups (FESPG) with 168 members (141F) were established for production and marketing of FES (*Activity 2.2.7.6.1*). REAAP provided technical and financial support, such as seed money, mold, cement and iron bar and communities contributed sand and labor. 50 members (40 female and 10 male) of the FESG were trained in production techniques and marketing (*Activity 2.2.7.6.2*). Once marketing of the stove gets saturated among the communities in and adjacent kebeles, facilitation for linking of FESPG to local market (*Activity 2.2.7.6.3*) will follow in coming year.

Because of delay in PDRA process and finalization of action plan, activities 2.2.7.7 and 2.2.7.8, were not implemented. Due to the drought activities in the approved action plans might change to address the changing need of the communities better.

In livestock dependent communities (Meiso and Midhega Tola woredas), 20 out of 40 hectares targeted (50%) of the highly degraded *rangeland* were closed for human and livestock (*Activity 2.2.7.9.1*). In collaboration with respective woreda livestock agency office, orientation was provided in both woredas on hay making and preservation to 15 communities (5F), and another training was also organized on livestock marketing, health and management, at which 24 participants (9F) participated (*Activity 2.2.7.9.3*).



Communities in Oda Chale kebele, Meiso Woreda clearing unpalatable species in rangeland for protection and water harvesting.

**IR 3 Systems for planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation around DRR and climate change adaptation are established and strengthened through working with government and other stakeholders.**

Output 3.1 A contextually relevant community resilience framework developed to guide knowledge management, program strategies and learning.

No activities in FY15 were planned for this output.

Output 3.2 Sustained, supportive relationships are built between and among community DRR Committees, relevant woredas and other GoE bodies, community organizations, DRM stakeholders.

REAAP linked 117 pregnant women, 112 lactating mothers, 101 non PLW and 2 PWD with nutrition and health programs (*Activity 3.2.1.*).

An experience exchange visit was organized to Bakalcha Oromiya Kebele of Meta Woreda and 220 participants from adjacent kebeles and other REAAP woredas (Fedis and Midhega totala) including representatives of DRR committee, government sector & administration offices, SILC agents and DRRR facilitators have participated. The purpose of the visit was to establish horizontal linkages between DRR committees, SILC groups, and farmer organizations by organizing forums (*Activity 3.2.2.*). The visit has focused on KHG, SILC and food preparation and preservation.



Women celebrate experience exchange visit held in Bakalcha Oromia of Meta Woreda

Implementation of (*Activity 3.2.3.*): Establish/Strengthen local level networks for women and PWDs, during the reporting period assessments were conducted in all kebeles and 16 networks were identified and strengthening of these networks for women and PWD will continue.

*Activities (3.2.4 and 3.2.5)* were not implemented, as a result of implementation of action plan not yet started.

92 (22F) DRR committee members were trained in EWS data collection and reporting through SMS (*Activity 3.2.6. 1*).

REAAP and REVIVE conducted a half day meeting to share knowledge and experiences from FY15 implementation. Improved knowledge sharing between REAAP and related USAID and non-USAID projects collaborative meeting were conducted (*Activity 3.2.7.*), see chapter 7. In addition REAAP has received 30 years rainfall and temperature data from NMA, organized

seasonal weather forecast for farmers and academics and distributed 850 plastic rain gauges to REAAP operational woredas.

**Output 3.3 REAAP used a functional Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning system that facilitate data-driven program and policy decisions.**

Output 3.3: Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning system

*Activities 3.3.1 and 3.3.2*): Project monitoring system established using participatory process and SMILER/M&E Plan also developed in the presence of all partners. Training on monitoring and Evaluation basics and principles was organized and 31 (5 female and 26 male) REAAP field staff have participated (*Activity 3.3.3*).

*Activity 3.3.4* Regular, consistent monitoring data collected and consolidated: CRS/REAAP team with HCS and HI staff, have conducted monitoring visits to REAAP operation areas quarterly, and have reviewed implementation of planned activities, challenges, working relationship with sector government offices, and quality of data collected. REAAP team and field staff has also conducted quarterly review meetings where consortium members were participated. The events have helped to identify activity which were implemented as per the schedule and has also flagged out those delaying behind the schedule. And at the end of the meetings jointly agreed action plan prepared and close follow up made by REAAP team for its implementation timely. During third quarter of the year, one team with USAID, which AOR was part of the team has also conducted monitoring visit to REAAP operation areas.



REAAP staff participate in Q4 review and planning meeting.

Training in REAAP indicator tracking table/database system was conducted to 50 community DRR Facilitators (10F) in East and West Hararghe zone towns (*Activity 3.3.5*). Training was provided to seven ECC-SDCOH M&E staff on the REAAP performance database system called indicator tracking table (ITT) to help establish documentation and proper reporting.

REAAP team has conducted quarterly partners review meeting to identify promising and best practices of the activity implementation (*Activity 3.3.6*). ADPO and woreda level staff conduct regular visits and discussions with sector government staff and DRR committee members about implementation of planned activities and strengthening the working relationship.

The quality of implementation data for reporting was checked at each woreda and sample kebeles for evidence. Key data quality issues were identified and resolved on the spot during data quality check at community level.

An Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) was conducted and IEE report was submitted to USAID on October 30, 2014. Based on USAID blanket IEE from August 25, 2015 for ongoing activities under USAID/Ethiopia (*Activity 3.3.7*), *REAAP signed EMMP on Oct 22, 2015*.

In Q4, 148 (48F) DRR Committees members (3 per kebele) and 50 members of DRR Facilitators attended the training on Participatory Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation basics (*PPMEL*) (*Activity 3.3.8*) with major objective of capacitating community to carry out its own PPMEL on the implementation of the action plans. Community led PPMEL was established in all 50 kebeles of six woredas (*Activity 3.3.9*). 49 (4F) participated on the zonal level quarterly stakeholders joint review workshop (*Activity 3.3.10*).

On October 16-17, 2014 and August 3-4, 2015, 29 (2F) REAAP consortium members participated in the *annual project planning workshops* to develop Annual Work Plan and DIP (*Activity 3.3.11*). In Q4, TOT to 23 CP staff was conducted on USAID environmental compliance-Environmentally Sound Design and Management (*ESDM*) for partner institutions. (*Activity 3.3.12*). Activities 3.3.13-3.3.15 were not implemented due to the late finalization of PDRA process and action plan approvals.

*Environmental Status Report* is attached to this APR see annex 4 (*Activity 3.3.16*).

*Baseline survey* and gender analysis report are in its final draft stage; internal and external reviewers including USAID comments were received and incorporated. Reports are ready for validation workshop scheduled Oct. 2015 (*Activity 3.3.17 and 18*). Baseline data dissemination workshop (*Activity 3.3.19*) is not organized yet.

Based on the recommendation from the gender analysis report, gender activities are included in the FY 2016 AWP. As recommended in the report, SILC supervisor based at Woreda level and SILC officer at ADPO level are assigned as a focal person for gender in their respective areas.

*Real-Time Evaluations* are planned for Year 2 and 3 (*Activity 3.3.20*). REAAP has monitored the implementation of *SMILER* (*Activity 3.3.21*) during quarterly field visits conducted in each REAAP operation areas. *Joint site supervision* on the implementation of SWCMs by partner and government staffs will be conducted in the upcoming quarters of FY 2016 due to the recent finalization of PDRA process and action plan approvals (*Activity 3.3.22*).

*Activity 3.3.23 and 3.3.24* were not implemented, because there were no big challenges with *SMILER*.

Quarterly data quality check conducted and feedback provided to M & E staff at woreda and ADPO levels (*Activity 3.3.25*).

The annual DQA will be conducted in FY16 (*Activity 3.3.26*). Activities 3.3.27-30 have been completed.

## 4. REASONS WHY SOME PLANNED ACTIVITIES NOT IMPLEMENTED

National mass mobilization from January 12 and February 12 and the national election in May, have contributed for some delay in community meetings, hence there was delay in establishing DRR committee and providing orientation on CM-DRR approach and facilitating PDRA process. The result of this delay is that PDRA process and action plans were finalized in September, and consequently implementation of SWC and water development activities was delayed too. Because of overlap of 17 REAAP kebeles with other NGOs, replacement of these kebeles with new DRR facilitators and SILC agents has also contribution to some delay.

Activities 2.2.4-6 and Activities 2.2.7.4, 2.2.7.7 and 2.2.7.8 were not implementation because of delay in finalizing PDRA process and action plans.

Activity 3.3.19, baseline data dissemination workshop, was not organized because final draft baseline report was completed in September 2015.

Activity 3.3.23 and 3.3.24 were not implemented, because there were no big challenges with SMILER.

## 5. MEASURES PUT IN PLACE TO ENSURE ACTIVITIES AND GOALS ARE MET

REAAP has accomplished almost all of its planned activities in FY15, regardless of the hardship of communities in last two quarters due to the drought. In Q1, REAAP focused on start-up activities, like procurement, hiring staff and USAID deliverables. Q2 REAAP focused selecting 50 kebeles, DRR facilitators and SILC Agents consequently REAAP focused on building capacity for these staff. In Q3 DRR facilitators started the CMDRR and PDRA process with communities and these were finalized in Q4 with submission of action plans to the APFC for approval.

## 6. LESSONS LEARNED, CHALLENGES, NEXT STEPS

### Lessons Learned:

- It has been realized that the CM-DRR approach contributes in raising awareness of the community about the impacts of climate change on their livelihood;
- It is through strong partnership with various stakeholders at kebele and woreda level that make REAAP's goal possible;
- Communities better understand their problems, capacity and opportunities if they get the chance to discuss their own issues through participatory approach and also can come up with their own feasible solutions;
- The community have traditional knowledge and practices regarding early warning signs and signals and this can be integrated with scientific EW data and together they can be used in better agriculture activity planning;

- As a result of ENA/IYCF and keyhole garden, a low cost and simple technology, awareness creation to the communities, adaptation and vegetable crops production to have a balanced diet/healthy nutrition is high without requiring much water.

#### **Challenges:**

- Field staff turnover at CP level;
- Delay in the completing the final PDRA report and community action plan timely resulted in delay of implementing soil and water conservation related activities.
- The long process for getting vehicles imported and registered, has resulted in higher travel and transportation costs due to car rentals.
- Because of absence of rainfall in REAAP woredas, crop performance is poor and some communities in the pastoral areas were not able to plant the seed, including the improved seeds provided by REAAP. Shortage of feed and water for livestock is also a problem in pastoral and agro pastoral areas. There is a risk that REAAP communities migrate.

#### **Next Steps for FY 2016 Q1:**

- Organize validation workshops to finalize gender analysis and baseline survey reports;
- Train 50 DRR facilitators and 50 SILC Agents on CMDRR approach and SILC principles and methodology respectively;
- Start CMDRR approach and PDRA process with 50 new kebeles;
- Approve last 8 Action Plan Fund applications (from year 1 kebeles);
- Implement seasonal activities (purchase of hand tools and materials to be used for implementation of action plan), soil and water conservation activities, feasibility study for water development, KHG, SILC;
- Organize FY 2016 first quarter review meeting and monitoring visit to REAAP operation areas;
- Continue distribution of kits to PWD;
- Continue radio message on disability inclusion and NRM.

## **7. COLLABORATION**

1. COPs from REAAP and REVIVE have met frequently in FY15 and shared QPR and discussed baseline tools, joint launch, shared learning event and review and planning meetings.
2. Throughout the year REAAP attended Feed the Future quarterly meeting.
3. REAAP found collaboration with CIAFS using CIAFS publications in REAAP's implementation, especially the extension and climate change materials. CIAFS ended in FY15.
4. REAAP found collaboration with ALKDP and has shared field visit rapid assessment Q and A, has been in dialogue about validation of IKP assessment, baseline survey and gender analysis.
5. REAAP met with regional, zonal and woreda officials during a USAID field visit in March.

6. REAAP coordinated with PRIME about their resilience piece, but is still exploring common ground for collaboration, which might be hard based on the fact that PRIME is implemented in a different geographic area and is more focused on private sector investments.
7. REAAP coordinated with AGP/LMD and Commercial Farmers Services Program and collaboration will be further explored.
8. REAAP coordinated with DigitalGreen and may have found common ground to use DigitalGreen's pico projectors for DRR facilitators extension training in Meta.
9. REAAP coordinated with Wageningen University and Research Center in the Netherlands (WUR) as well as with the Netherlands Embassy in Addis Ababa. WUR and the Embassy have several projects together, such as CASCAP (capacity building for scaling up of evidence based best practices in agricultural production in Ethiopia), ISSD (Integrated Seed System Development), ABSF (Agribusiness Support Facility), SBN (Sesame business network), CommonSense (microfinance, insurance and agro info based on satellite; business model approach), "Climate change adaption in Ethiopia" (capacity training of policy makers on different levels) and Water Harvesting for Rainfed Africa (investing in dryland agriculture for growth and resilience).
10. REAAP also met with CARE to discuss overlapping kebeles and will continue the dialogue and learning with CARE COPs in the future.
11. Internally REAAP collaborated with JEOP on the EWS database and with DFAP on the keyhole garden rapid assessment (barrier analysis), selection of kebeles as well as synergies in overlapping kebeles. Also, REAAP has collaborated with Farmer to Farmer and is expecting 5 volunteers in FY16.
12. Collaborative meeting were conducted with PRIME (CARE) about EW systems and PCI-REVIVE about start up and implementation and shared previous experience and learning across programs.

## 8. SPECIFIC SECTION ON QUARTER FOUR

The following activities were completed in Q4. 48 year 1 DRR facilitators received coaching in CMDRR process. Two *radio messages* have been broadcasted via the Haramaya FM radio station and CP *disability audits* and *woreda disability assessment* have been completed. IK and Practices (IKP) assessment was completed and validation workshops in Chiro, Dire Dawa and Addis Ababa conducted and participants' feedback was incorporated in the final report. Weekly Early Warning information at woreda level was collected. 3 days CMDRR coaching sessions were organized for 20 (3F) government staff and 48 (10F) DRR facilitators by CORDAID's global CMDRR expert. These DRR facilitators were trained on disability mainstreaming for two days in Harar, Chiro and Dire Dawa towns. Training was organized for 50 inclusive DRR committees (1,000 members, 463F) on community managed disaster risk reduction and climate change (CM-DRR & CCA). DRR committees lead campaign to strengthen community awareness on climate change and other hazard-related topics including gender and disability sensitive disaster vulnerabilities was implemented. 5,437 community members (1,623F) from 21

kebeles in Fedis (7 kebeles), Midhega Tola (6 kebeles) and Tullo woredas (8 kebeles) have participated at an experience exchange visit and awareness creation campaign. 80 Saving and Internal Lending Communities (SILC) were organized. 148 (48F) DRR Committees members (3 per kebele) and 50 members of DRR Facilitators attended the training on Participatory Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation basics (*PPMEL*). Community led PPMEL was established in all 50 kebeles of six woredas. 49 (4F) participated on the zonal level quarterly stakeholders joint review workshops. On August 3-4, 2015, 29 (2F) REAAP consortium members participated in the *annual project planning workshops* to develop Annual Work Plan and DIP. TOT to 23 CP staff was conducted on USAID environmental compliance-Environmentally Sound Design and Management (*ESDM*) for partner institutions. 50 CMDRR reports and action plans were finalized and 50 Action Plan Fund applications were submitted to REAAP APFC for approval. 42 were approved, 8 are pending approval as they were not complete or well designed/developed.

## 9. ANNEXES

### 9.1 REAAP Activity Achievements in FY15

### 9.2 REAAP operational area map

### 9.3 Transforming lives stories

### 9.4 REAAP FY15 ESR

### 9.5 REAAP FY16 PITT

---- End of FY15 Q4 and FY15 APR ---